

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for operating an automatic dishwasher (1) with an endless conveyor belt (10) which continuously conveys material to be cleaned and which is driven by a drive mechanism (24) controllable from a machine control unit, and the automatic dishwasher (1) can be operated in several operating modes (71, 72, 73, 74), said method comprising the following steps:

- a) on switching from a first operating mode (71) "Cleaning of dishes for milk products" to a second operating mode (72) "Cleaning of dishes for meat or meat products" and vice versa, ~~execution of a third operating mode "Kosher operation" (73) is enforced~~ always performed,
- b) during the third operating mode (73) "Kosher operation", ~~the interior surfaces of the automatic dishwasher in which cleaning of dishes is performed (1) is cleaned~~ are cleaned with a cleaning fluid whose temperature lies above the ~~rinse~~ water temperature of rinse water or fresh water ~~temperature~~ occurring when cleaning of dishes is performed in the in normal operation of the automatic dishwasher (1),
- c) during the third operating mode (73) "Kosher operation", the endless conveyor belt (10) is cleaned continuously by a cleaning device (43),
- d) during the third operating mode (73) "Kosher operation", the automatic dishwasher (1) is provided with a curtain (43) to be used exclusively in the third operating mode (73) "Kosher operation", and
- e) during a fourth operating mode (74) called "Sabbath operation", a cut-off function of the drive mechanism (24, 59) of the endless conveyor belt (10) is executed upon overloading and upon interruption via light barriers (52).

2. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, in the third operating mode (73) "Kosher operation", the cleaning fluid for cleaning the areas interior surfaces of the automatic dishwasher contaminated in the first operating mode (71) or in the second operating mode (72) has a temperature of between 90°C and 95°C.

3. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, during the third operating mode (73) "Kosher operation", the endless conveyor belt (10) is cleaned continuously ~~on the upper face and lower face~~ upper and lower faces thereof by a cleaning system (43).

4. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that, ~~in the third operating mode (73) "Kosher operation"~~, the cleaning system (43) is provided with a set of cleaning brushes ~~corresponding to the preceding operating mode (71) or (72)~~.

5. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, in the first operating mode (71) "Cleaning of dishes for milk products", only ~~the~~ a set of first curtains (40) ~~are~~ is suspended in the automatic dishwasher (1).

6. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, in the second operating mode (72) "Cleaning of dishes for meat products", only ~~the~~ a set of second curtains (41) ~~are~~ is suspended in the automatic dishwasher (1).

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, using a fourth switch (74) provided on ~~the~~ a control panel (70), the automatic dishwasher (1) can be converted to an operating mode called "Sabbath operation" in which, if malfunctions occur, the drive mechanism (24, 59) of the endless conveyor belt (10) and of ~~the~~ circulating pumps (29) and of ~~the~~ a fresh water supply line is automatically switched off.

9. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that, in the fourth operating mode (74) of the automatic dishwasher (1), a blocking of ~~the~~ advance movement (11) of the endless conveyor belt (10) is detected by a limit switch (50) configured as a light barrier (52).

10. (original) The method as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the detection of the blocked endless conveyor belt (10) is effected via a light barrier (52) which executes a current interruption function using a mirror which can be deflected via a lever system (56) actuated upon blocking of the advance movement (11) of the endless conveyor belt (10).